

The Labor Advocate

A PAPER FOR ALL WHO TOIL

Official Organ of
The Building Trades Council
of Cincinnati and Vicinity
ISSUED WEEKLY

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Communications should be on hand not later
than Wednesday to insure publication.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR IN ADVANCE

Entered at the postoffice at Cincinnati, O., as
second-class mail matter.



Cincinnati, Ohio, August 21, 1915.

LYNCHING THE HONOR OF A STATE.

On Sunday Leo Frank left the Milledgeville prison hospital, cured of the wound inflicted by the negro convict Green. On Monday a band of Mary Phagan's Marietta neighbors dashed more than 100 miles across the State, dragged Frank from his cell and returned to Marietta, where they hanged him in broad daylight.

Public neglect or collusion favored the deed at every step. There was no opposition. The Marietta chief of police knew nothing afterward of a crime his neighbors knew all about beforehand. In more than 200 miles of open road no one questioned the lynchers' procession. Atlanta does not know whether the party avoided the city or passed through. In Milledgeville, though there had been warning enough, nothing was done by thirty armed men, behind walls that would have stood a siege, to defend their charge.

Night veiled Georgia's contempt of law. Day lighted its odd ideas of decency. When the body was "found"—Sheriff and Coroner being conveniently absent—it remained hanging while Georgia parents lifted little children up to gaze over the heads of the throng at a spectacle they can never forget, a festival of gluttoned vengeance befitting a savage tribe. Pieces of its garments were cut off for "souvenirs." As a fitting final touch, the corpse was stamped upon by blood-mad ruffians.

The mob did not "take the law into their own hands." They trampled on the law. They lynched the honor of a State. In the dark prospect that faces the State there is one gleam of light. It is the declaration of the gallant ex-Governor Slaton that every man concerned in "an act contrary to the civilization of Georgia should be hanged, for he is an assassin." It is the pledge of Governor Harris to use all his power to "see to it that the members of this mob receive fitting punishment."

This is the word for future action. The law-abiding men of Georgia may be expected to disavow, to denounce, to condemn this crime against their State. But the only disavowal that will carry weight with the Nation will be the punishment of the men who murdered Leo Frank.

EVADING THE ISSUE.

Discussing The New York World's exposure of the German conspiracy in the United States, the Frankfurter Zeitung says:

That we are trying to purchase abroad what we may need during the war and for the war, and what otherwise would presumably fall into the hands of our enemies, is so obvious that disclosures along this line are simply comical. The United States has declared officially and expressly that it lies in the nature of its neutrality to sell arms and ammunition to us as well as to our enemies.

The World's disclosures, so far

as they relate to the purchase of munitions of war in the United States by German agents, would indeed be "simply comical" except for one fact. While the German Government has been making these purchases on its own account it has financed a political campaign against the Government of the United States to compel it to violate neutrality and make itself a German ally by laying an embargo against the shipment of arms to countries with which Germany is at war.

Because the President has held to the interests of the United States and to the law of nations in respect to the sale of munitions of war, the German Government has set its subsidized newspapers and its subsidized agitators to attack him and menace him with political destruction. American citizens have been arrayed into two hostile camps by the agency of this German intrigue. The United States has even been threatened with civil war if it refused to accept the limitations which Germany purposed to establish upon its rights not only upon the high seas but upon American soil.

No fault can be found with German purchases of munitions of war in this country. No fault can be found with the secret methods used by German agents to evade the British blockade. Such activities involve no violation of neutrality. On the contrary, they are in accord with the American interpretation of neutrality and with the historic practices of the United States.

The indictment against Germany lies in a corrupt and seditious propaganda directed against the peace and welfare of the United States and supported by hypocrisy and falsehood. In view of the German purchases of military supplies, the German campaign for an embargo on munitions of war is probably the most impudent and shameless piece of mendacity of which a great nation was ever officially guilty.

The American people do not care whether Germany buys arms here or not. The market is open and Germany has the same rights as any other belligerent so far as this Government is concerned. But the American people care a great deal whether a pretended friendly Government is meddling with the domestic affairs of the United States, whether it is conspiring against the President, whether it is debauching public opinion, buying strikes and industrial turmoil, inciting sedition against the Government and organizing treason.

Because certain Serbians carried on a hostile propaganda against the Austrian Government, Germany regarded their activities as a sufficient excuse for plunging the world into the most terrible war known to human history. Will the Frankfurter Zeitung or any other spokesman for the German Government tell us whether the German propaganda is less inimical to the interests of the United States than was the Serbian propaganda to the interests of Austria? If Germany regards foreign intrigue against a friendly nation as a legitimate cause for war, what must it think of its own intrigue against the United States?

BUY UNION COAL.

The time is drawing near when you must lay in your winter's supply of coal. No matter who your dealer has been, if you are a union man you should give the Queen City Coal Company a trial. The Queen City has demonstrated that it is a friend of union labor. Its coal is all union mined, and the company never has hesitated to give its assistance to any union cause. Look up the Queen City Coal Company and have a talk with it before placing your fall order.

CHURCHES JOIN WITH UNIONS IN LAWSON PROTEST

Whereas, The government and courts of southern Colorado have for years been so dominated by the coal companies as to create a suspicion of their impartiality in administration and their fairness to coal miners; and

Whereas, The whole course and conduct of the trial of John R. Lawson have been such as to discredit the verdict; and

Whereas, Mine guards in the employ of the coal companies and members of the State militia have committed many acts of lawlessness and violence; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we denounce the coal companies for their flagrant domination of the government and courts in various parts of Colorado and demand that the government itself seek to regain public confidence by a fair and impartial administration of the laws;

Resolved, That we demand the removal from the bench of Judge Granby Hillyer and ask for John R. Lawson and all accused miners a fair trial before an impartial court in whom the people may have confidence;

Resolved, That we demand a thorough investigation of all cases of lawlessness and violence in southern Colorado and ask that mine guards and militiamen, equally with miners and their sympathizers who have been guilty of crime, shall be called to account.

Philadelphia.—The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America joined with organized labor in a Lawson protest meeting in this city, last Sunday evening, and passed the resolutions stated above.

The meeting was most significant because of the churchmen's uncompromising opposition to methods employed at the Lawson trial and other Colorado outrages. They stood squarely with the trade-union movement on these questions, and further agreed with the organized workers that coal company domination of government and courts in various sections of Colorado and the operators' lawlessness must cease.

The speakers included Rev. Samuel Z. Batten and Gifford Pinchot, members of the Committee on Direction of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America; President Gompers and Secretary Frank Morrison, of the A. F. of L., and General Secretary William Green of the United Mine Workers of America. President Keenan, of the Central Labor Union, acted as chairman, and Rev. Batten presented the resolutions.

The position of the churches affiliated to the Federal Council was indicated by Rev. Batten, who declared:

"We will fight this case through the courts of Colorado and to the Supreme Court of the United States, if necessary. Hundreds of miners have been killed in the mines of Colorado during the past twenty-five years, but not one of their widows has ever collected damages. We of the church don't want a pardon for Lawson, we don't want charity, but we do want justice."

President Gompers said: "The great crime for which John R. Lawson was convicted was that he was not a sneak and a taker of bribes, but because he is as true to his fellow workmen as the north star is to the magnet. This crime against Lawson is a blow struck against our movement. We demand not a pardon for the man, but his acquittal. In the shadow of this City Hall, and almost within hearing of the clock in Independence Hall, we pledge ourselves to leave no honorable efforts untried until the great trade-union movement shall have obtained justice for the smallest of our people, and the liberation of Lawson from the dungeon which threatens his life's freedom."

Secretary Morrison quoted a letter from L. M. Bowers, chairman Executive Board of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in which the former explained how editors and business men were "rounded up" to aid the operators. "This rounding-up process," said Secretary Morrison, "may explain opposition to Pennsylvania child-labor legislation and the full-crew train law, and it may explain the Statewide demand for more Cossacks." The speaker referred to conditions among Westmoreland miners and in the Pennsylvania steel industry, and insisted that the white light of publicity was as necessary there as it was in West Virginia and Michigan, and which is now turned on Colorado, for the "rounding-up" process of those who oppose the workers is continually striving to stifle the voice of protest, whether heard in Colorado or elsewhere.

Secretary Green, of the Mine Workers, charged that "the very integrity of the American courts is jeopardized by the unscrupulous action of big corporations in Colorado." He outlined the fight at Ludlow, for which Lawson was convicted, and pointed out that, though mili-

tiamen and Rockefeller gunmen shot down women and children, not one has been convicted.

This meeting is the first of a series of similar meetings that will be held in various sections of the country by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and organized labor.

EMPLOYERS CHANGE FRONT ON WAGES

New York.—The Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association has accepted the award of the board of conciliation, appointed by Mayor Mitchell.

The employers reached this decision after the result of a strike vote of the garment workers was found to be practically unanimous in favor of tying up this industry if the Manufacturers' Association rejected an award that does not favor them.

Last May the employers abrogated their agreement with the union. A strike involving 60,000 workers seemed imminent when the employers were induced to refer the matter to a board of conciliation. The board not only raised wages but upset the plans of the employers to disrupt the union by the following declaration in favor of a joint board to consider appeals of unjust discharges:

"No human being is wise enough to be able to trust his sole judgement in decisions that affect the welfare of others; he needs to be protected, and, if he be truly wise, will welcome protection against the errors to which he is liable in common with his kind, as well as against the inspirations of passion or selfishness. For this reason, a tribunal of some kind is necessary, in case either of the parties to this covenant believe itself to be unjustly aggrieved."

This unqualified denial of an employer's "right to run his own business"—to have the sole right to discharge workers because of union activity—was in direct contrast with the manufacturers' plan and they began devising ways to reject the award.

The workers' answer to this attitude was a declaration that 60,000 unionists would strike if the award was not accepted. The will be no strike.

MINERS MAKE GAINS IN MEMBERSHIP WORK

Scranton, Pa.—The organizing campaign of the United Mine Workers' union in the anthracite districts is being vigorously waged and large crowds everywhere greet President White and his associates to hear the gospel of trade unionism again defended and explained. The recent convention of District No. 1, held in this city, has stimulated interest throughout the anthracite section, because the demands made indicate the possibilities of a 100 per cent organization.

These demands include an eight-hour day for all men and boys in and around the mines; a general wage advance of 25 per cent; time and one-half for holidays, and double time for Sundays; the abolishment of contract mining and an increased wage for firemen, carpenters, blacksmiths and other workers other than miners.

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Machinists Make Heavy Wage Advance

Washington.—The past month has been one of the most successful in recent years, is the report just issued by the International Association of Machinists, from its headquarters in this city.

The eight-hour day, without wage reductions, has been secured in the following plants:

Remington Arms Company, Bridgeport, Conn.

Winchester Repeating Arms Company, with 10 per cent wage increase.

Bliss Company, New York City, and the Remington Arms Company, Ilion, New York.

Scott Printing Press Company, Hall Printing Press Company, Vitaphone Company, Bosch Company, all of Plainfield, N. J.

Bullard Machine Tool Company, Bridgeport, Conn.

The Hendee Manufacturing Company, Springfield, Mass., grants a 50-hour week with a 10 per cent wage increase.

Pond Tool and Machine Company of Plainfield, N. J., with a 25 per cent wage increase.

Sauer plant of the National Motor Company, Plainfield, N. J., with a 20 per cent wage increase. This also applies to this concern's Mack Truck Company, Allentown, Pa.

The National Tool Company, Boston.

Company Signs Scale.
The Wheeling Can Company, Wheeling, W. Va., has signed a union shop agreement which calls for a 37½ cent minimum.

The strike at the American La France Fire Engine Company, Elmira, N. Y., has been settled on a compromise basis.

Under the terms of the agreement all strikers are to return to work at their former positions! nine hours to constitute a day's work; time and one-half for overtime up to midnight, after which double time is to be paid; work on holidays recognized by the union at the rate of time and one-half; company agrees to recognize committees. After all men return to work, or have been given an opportunity to return, the wage question is to be taken up with the company by a committee, and in the event they fail to agree the matter will be submitted to arbitration.

CLAIMS EDUCATION RECORD.

Pittsburgh.—This city claims the honor of having the most economically-conducted schools in the country. School officials state that "the cost per pupil of operating the Pittsburgh schools, while \$51.82 in 1912, in 1913 was cut to \$47.73, and for last year was \$40.10 per child, or a reduction of over \$11 per child in two years."

Census figures for ten leading cities for the year 1912 shows the cost per pupil to be:

Los Angeles, \$71.25; New York, \$54.61; St. Louis, \$54.12; Philadelphia, \$51.85; Pittsburgh, \$51.82; Washington, \$51.53; Minneapolis, \$50.49; Newark, \$50.11; Cleveland, \$46.30; Chicago, \$45.29.



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